

**Remarks**

**A. Claims**

Claims 6-16 and 18-20 are pending. Claims 6-10, 13 and 18 have been amended. Claims 17 and 78 have been cancelled.

**B. Claim Objections**

Claims 6-10, 13, and 17-19 were objected to because of informalities. In accordance with the Examiner's suggestions to correct the informalities, Applicant has amended claims 6-10, 13, and 18. Applicant cancelled claim 17 and incorporated the subject matter of claim 17 into claim 6 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions listed in a section of the Office Action entitled "Allowable Subject Matter" (discussed below). Further, Applicant is unable to identify any error with claim 19 that would warrant an objection. If the Examiner's objection is to the use of the term "the" prior to the term "transaction-related data", Applicant respectfully submits that "transaction-related data" has antecedent basis in feature five of claim 6.

With regard to claim 6, the Examiner requested clarification of the portion of the claim that recites "wherein storing the plurality of key definitions in the database table comprises, for each of at least two rows in the database table." Applicant submits that this portion of the claim is intended to express that "storing a plurality of key definitions in a database table" includes at least two rows in the database table being subject to the methods steps of displaying, receiving, preparing, storing, defining by the user and storing, as recited by the subsequent limitations of claim 6. Expressed more simply, each key definition may require a single row, and, thus, storing a plurality (e.g., two or more) of the key definitions may use two or more rows in the database. Applicant believes the recited feature of amended claim 6 accurately reflects the claimed method.

Applicant respectfully requests removal of the informality objections to claims 6-10, 13, and 17-19.

**C. Allowable Subject Matter**

In the Office Action, the Examiner stated, "Claims 17 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims." In accordance with the Examiner's suggestion, Applicant has amended claim 6 to include all of the limitations of dependent claim 17. Applicant submits that claim 6 and the claims dependent thereon are in condition for allowance.

**D. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)**

The Examiner rejected claims 6-16, and 78 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,794,229 to French et al. (hereinafter "French"), rejected claims 19-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over French in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,995,971 to Doceur et al.. The Examiner also indicated rejection of claim 31; however, Applicant believes the rejection of claim 31 to be a typographical error because claim 31 was previously cancelled.

Although Applicant does not agree with these rejections, to expedite prosecution and in accordance with the Examiner's suggestions discussed above, Applicant has amended claim 6 to incorporate all of the limitations of dependent claim 17. Accordingly, Applicant submits that the cited art does not appear to teach or suggest all of the features of independent claim 6. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection of claim 6 and the claims dependent thereon.

**E. Additional Comments**

Based on the above, Applicant submits that all claims are now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested. If anything other than allowance of all of the claims is determined, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner contact Applicant at the number below before any additional action is sent to Applicant.

If any extension of time is required, Applicant hereby requests the appropriate extension of time. Applicant believes that no fees are due in association with the filing of this document. If any fees are required or if any fees have been overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account Number 50-1505/5053-31401/EBM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "David W. Quimby". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

David W. Quimby  
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